

Serial No. 10/055,162
Filed: November 7, 2001
Attorney Docket No. 44471/266135
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A group work control system for controlling a work having a plurality of work steps for developing semiconductor devices through a network of terminals connected to each other by a communication line, said group work control system comprising:

a file generator which is connected to said network and configured to generate a schedule file in which the schedule of said work steps is written;

a database which is configured to store said schedule file in order that said schedule file is accessible through said network; and

an output device which is configured to provide work items to be conducted in the respective work steps on the basis of said schedule file as obtained.

2. (Currently amended) The group work control system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

a tool executing device which is configured to execute an application program for use in conducting said respective work items ~~on the basis of according to~~ a tool executing file in which ~~is written tool information~~ contains necessary tool information ~~when said application program is used to conduct said respective work items.~~

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3. (Original) The group work control system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said output device is provided with a function of displaying guide information about working to be conducted by a user when conducting said respective work items corresponding to said work steps.

4. (Currently amended) The group work control system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said file generator has a function of registering the works of a project and a function of altering a template file which is provided corresponding to said works of the project and in which contains ~~is written~~ a standard work time.

5. (Original) The group work control system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

a logic operation device which is configured to judge whether or not previous works have been finished in advance of said work items as provided; and

a setup device which is configured to prepare tools required for next work items when the previous works have been finished.

6. (Original) The group work control system as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

a file updating device which is configured to update said schedule file when it is confirmed that a user has completed a work item.

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7. (Currently amended) A group work control method for controlling a work having a plurality of work steps for developing semiconductor devices through a network of terminals connected to each other by a communication line, said group work control method comprising:

- generating a schedule file in which a schedule of said work steps is written;
- storing said schedule file in a database accessible through said network; and
- displaying work items to be conducted in the respective work steps on the basis of said schedule file.

8. (Currently amended) The group work control method as claimed in claim 7 further comprising:

- storing a tool executing file in which contains is written tool information necessary tool information when for the an application program is used to conduct said respective work items;

- obtaining said tool executing file in response to selection by a user; and
- executing said application program by executing said tool executing file.

9. (Original) The group work control method as claimed in claim 7 further comprising:

- displaying guide information about working to be conducted by a user when conducting said respective work items corresponding to said work steps.

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10. (Currently amended) The group work control method as claimed in claim 7 further comprising, when said schedule file is generated,
registering a development project;
obtaining a template file which is provided corresponding to said project and in which
contains is written a standard work time; and
altering said template file when required.

11. (Original) The group work control method as claimed in claim 7 further comprising:
judging whether or not previous works have been finished in advance of said work items as displayed; and
preparing execution of tools required for the next work items when the previous works have been finished.

12. (Original) The group work control method as claimed in claim 7 further comprising:
updating said schedule file when it is confirmed that a user has completed a work item.

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13. (Currently amended) A work control program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program logic stored therein for controlling a work having a plurality of work steps for developing semiconductor devices through a network of terminals connected to each other by a communication line by the use of a template file in which contains ~~is written~~ a standard work time, wherein said computer program logic comprises:

~~a step of~~ amending a template file by registering ~~the~~ a start-up date of said work steps in a calendar file;

~~a step of~~ generating a schedule file containing a day's program of said work steps ~~on the basis of~~ according to the template file as amended; and

~~a step of~~ storing said schedule file in a database accessible through said network.

14. (Currently amended) A work control program product comprising a computer readable medium having computer program logic stored therein for controlling a work having a plurality of work steps for developing semiconductor devices through a network of terminals connected to each other by a communication line, wherein said computer program logic comprises:

~~a step of~~ obtaining a development project as registered in said network;

~~a step of~~ determining whether or not a schedule file as prepared corresponding to said development project is updated;

~~a step of~~ obtaining the latest schedule file as updated when said schedule file is updated; and

~~a step of~~ displaying the latest schedule file as obtained in the form of a flowchart.